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Cont'd

alkali metal or amine salts thereof, 2-sulfoethylene (meth)acrylate and 3-sulfopropylene (meth)acrylate or the alkali metal or amine salts thereof, polyoxyethylene glycol mono(meth)acrylate, 2-acrylamido-2-methylolpropanesulfonic acid or the alkali metal or amine salts, acid phosphoxypolyoxyethylene glycol mono(meth)acrylate, and allylamine or the hydrohalogenides thereof.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 20 and 21 with the following:

A ✓

As the solid fine particles, various kinds of materials, such as metal fine particles, metal oxide fine particles and organic or inorganic polymer fine particles, can be utilized. Examples of such fine particles include copper powder, tin powder, iron powder, zinc oxide powder, silicon oxide powder, titanium dioxide powder, aluminum oxide powder, molybdenum disulfide powder, calcium carbonate powder, clay, mica, cone starch, boron nitride, silicone resin particles, polystyrene resin particles, fluoropolymer particles, acrylic resin particles, polyester resin particles, acrylonitrile copolymer resin particles, zinc stearate and calcium behenate. The suitable average size of those fine particles is at least 0.05 (μm, preferably at least 0.1 μm). In the case of attaching fine particles to the sheet surface or providing a fine particles-containing layer on the sheet surface, the average size of fine particles is almost equivalent for the roughness of the roughened surface. In the case of incorporating fine particles into a sheet, the roughness depends on the average size of the fine particles and the thickness of the sheet. In the latter case, therefore, it is required for achieving the optimum roughness that the optimum particle size should be determined experimentally depending on the sheet to be combined with the fine particles.

✓
Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 30 and 31 with the following:

AB
From the viewpoint of high-quality image formation, it is favorable that the tip of the ink-jet electrode 10b be made as narrow as possible.

✓
Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 33 and 34 with the following:

AY
As another example of a platemaking method usable in the invention, mention may be made of a method of utilizing a silver complex salt diffusion transfer process for the supply of metal ions. In carrying out this method, a donor sheet coated with a silver salt photosensitive material is prepared in addition to a direct imaging lithographic printing plate according to the invention. After imagewise exposure, the donor sheet is subjected to development in the presence of a complexing material capable of dissolving silver halide in the unexposed areas. Therein, the exposed areas of the silver salt photosensitive material undergoes chemical development, while the silver halide in the unexposed areas forms a complex together with such a solvent and thereby dissolves (the phenomena caused in exposed and unexposed areas respectively are reversed in a direct-positive photosensitive material). At the time of development, the donor sheet is brought into face-to-face contact with the direct imaging lithographic printing plate, and thereby silver ions can be transferred from the silver salt photosensitive material onto the image-receiving layer of the direct imaging lithographic printing plate. Simultaneously with the transfer of silver complex ion, the polymer compound constituting the image-receiving layer is cured since it has hydrophilic functional groups capable of forming chelates together with metal ions. Thus, the hardened film is formed in the silver complex ion-transferred areas alone.

✓
Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 40, line 2, with the following:

AS
In a paint shaker (made by Toyo Seiki Seisaku-Sho, Ltd.), 10 g of a copolymer of dodecyl methacrylate and acrylic acid (98/2 by weight), 10 g of Alkali Blue and 30 g of Shellsol 71 were placed together with glass beads, and dispersed for 4 hours. Thus, a blue dispersion containing fine particles of Alkali Blue was obtained.

✓
Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 47, line 11, with the following:

AP
In a paint shaker (made by Toyo Seiki Seisaku-Sho, Ltd.), 10 g of a copolymer of dodecyl methacrylate and acrylic acid (98/2 by weight), 10 g of Alkali Blue and 30 g of Shellsol 71 were placed together with glass beads, and dispersed for 4 hours. Thus, a blue dispersion containing fine particles of Alkali Blue was obtained.

✓
IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims 2 and 3 without prejudice or disclaimer and replace claims 1 and 4 as follows:

AT
1. (Amended) A direct imaging lithographic printing plate comprising a support and an image-receiving layer provided thereon, said image-receiving layer having hydrophilicity and comprising a polymer compound that is chemically bonded directly to the support surface and has hydrophilic functional groups capable of forming chelates together with metal ions, wherein the polymer compound is a hydrophilic functional group-containing straight-chain polymer compound that is chemically bonded directly to the support surface at its molecular end.

ASL
4. (Amended) The direct imaging lithographic printing plate according to
claim 1, wherein the hydrophilic functional group capable of forming chelates together
with metal ions is selected from the group consisting of carboxylic acid group, a sulfonic
acid group, an amino group, a hydroxyl group, and an active methylene group and a salt
thereof.